

*DISCLAIMER: This document is prepared as an aid to staff of the DHS Drinking Water Program and cannot be relied upon by the regulated community as the State of California's representation of the law. The published codes are the only official representation of the law.*

*Please inform the Drinking Water Program about any omissions or corrections so that they can be addressed in subsequent updates.*

## **GOVERNMENT CODE**

### **Section 51010.5. Definitions**

As used in this chapter, the following definitions apply:

(a) "Pipeline" includes every intrastate pipeline used for the transportation of hazardous liquid substances or highly volatile liquid substances, including a common carrier pipeline, and all piping containing those substances located within a refined products bulk loading facility which is owned by a common carrier and is served by a pipeline of that common carrier, and the common carrier owns and serves by pipeline at least five such facilities in the state. "Pipeline" does not include the following:

- (1) An interstate pipeline subject to Part 195 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
- (2) A pipeline for the transportation of a hazardous liquid substance in a gaseous state.
- (3) A pipeline for the transportation of crude oil that operates by gravity or at a stress level of 20 percent or less of the specified minimum yield strength of the pipe.
- (4) Transportation of petroleum in onshore gathering lines located in rural areas.
- (5) A pipeline for the transportation of a hazardous liquid substance offshore located upstream from the outlet flange of each facility on the Outer Continental Shelf where hydrocarbons are produced or where produced hydrocarbons are first separated, dehydrated, or otherwise processed, whichever facility is farther downstream.
- (6) Transportation of a hazardous liquid by a flow line.
- (7) A pipeline for the transportation of a hazardous liquid substance through an onshore production, refining, or manufacturing facility, including a storage or inplant piping system associated with that facility.

(8) Transportation of a hazardous liquid substance by vessel, aircraft, tank truck, tank car, or other vehicle or terminal facilities used exclusively to transfer hazardous liquids between those modes of transportation.

(b) "Flow line" means a pipeline which transports hazardous liquid substances from the well head to a treating facility or production storage facility.

(c) "Hydrostatic testing" means the application of internal pressure above the normal or maximum operating pressure to a segment of pipeline, under no-flow conditions for a fixed period of time, utilizing a liquid test medium.

(d) "Local agency" means a city, county, or fire protection district.

(e) "Rural area" means a location which lies outside the limits of any incorporated or unincorporated city or city and county, or other residential or commercial area, such as a subdivision, a business, a shopping center, or a community development.

(f) "Gathering line" means a pipeline eight inches or less in nominal diameter that transports petroleum from a production facility.

(g) "Production facility" means piping or equipment used in the production, extraction, recovery, lifting, stabilization, separation, or treatment of petroleum or associated storage or measurement. (To be a production facility under this definition, piping or equipment must be used in the process of extracting petroleum from the ground and transporting it by pipeline.)

(h) "Public drinking water well" means a wellhead that provides drinking water to a public water system as defined in Section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code, that is regulated by the State Department of Health Services and that is subject to Section 116455 of the Health and Safety Code.

(i) "GIS mapping system" means a geographical information system that will collect, store, retrieve, analyze, and display environmental geographical data in a database that is accessible to the public.

(j) "Motor vehicle fuel" includes gasoline, natural gasoline, blends of gasoline and alcohol, or gasoline and oxygenates, and any inflammable liquid, by whatever name the liquid may be known or sold, which is used or is usable for propelling motor vehicles operated by the explosion type engine. It does not include kerosene, liquefied petroleum gas, or natural gas in liquid or gaseous form.

(k) "Oxygenate" means an organic compound containing oxygen that has been approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency as a gasoline additive to meet the requirements for an "oxygenated fuel" pursuant to Section 7545 of Title 42 of the United States Code.

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**Section 51017.1. GIS for wells**

(a) Utilizing GIS-based location information furnished by the State Department of Health Services and the State Water Resources Control Board, at least once every two years the State Fire Marshal shall determine the identity of each pipeline or pipeline segment that is regulated by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to this chapter that transports petroleum product when that pipeline is located within 1,000 feet of a public drinking water well.

(b) With assistance from the State Department of Health Services and the State Water Resources Control Board, the State Fire Marshal shall notify the operator of the pipelines identified in subdivision (a) of the following information:

(1) That the specific pipeline or pipeline segment has been identified as being located within 1,000 feet of a public drinking water well.

(2) The name of the water purveyor and the location of the public drinking water well affected. With advice from the GIS mapping advisory committee, created pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 25299.97 of the Health and Safety Code, the identification of the pipelines and notification of pipeline owners by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to subdivision (a) and this subdivision shall begin once the GIS mapping system created by Section 25299.97 of the Health and Safety Code is able to provide accurate and useful information on pipeline and wellhead locations.

(c) Each pipeline operator notified pursuant to subdivision (b) shall prepare a pipeline wellhead protection plan as required by Section 51017.2 and submit the plan to the State Fire Marshal within 180 days from the date of either receiving the notification specified in subdivision (b), or adoption of regulations by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to Section 51017.2, whichever is later.

(d) With the advice of the State Department of Health Services, the State Water Resources Control Board, appropriate California regional water quality controls boards, and local water purveyors, the State Fire Marshal shall review each wellhead protection plan submitted by a pipeline operator, and approve those plans that meet the criteria of the regulations adopted by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to Section 51017.2. The State Fire Marshal shall have discretion to allow a wellhead protection plan to address multiple wellheads where the conditions creating the risk to the wellheads are substantially similar. The pipeline operator shall implement the wellhead protection plan within 180 days from the date of receiving approval from the State Fire Marshal.

(e) Each pipeline operator having a wellhead protection plan approved by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to subdivision (d) shall evaluate that plan at least once every five years to ensure that the plan is in compliance with the current regulations established by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to Section 51017.2. The pipeline operator shall provide either written documentation to the State Fire Marshal that the previously approved wellhead protection plan has been evaluated and that no changes are warranted, or submit a new wellhead protection plan to remain in

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compliance with existing regulations or to meet the requirements of regulations adopted since the plan was approved.

(f) The pipeline operator subject to subdivision (c) may petition the State Fire Marshal in writing for an exemption from the requirements of subdivision (c). With advice from the State Water Resources Control Board, the State Department of Health Services, the California regional water quality control boards, and local water purveyors, the State Fire Marshal may approve the exemption if the petition demonstrates that the pipeline either does not transport motor vehicle fuel, or does not pose a significant threat to the public drinking water well based upon, but not limited to, the following criteria:

(1) Pipeline parameters, such as operation pressure, operating temperature, age, design, fabrication materials, construction, corrosive nature of the surrounding soil, cathodic protection, and feasibility of internal inspection or evaluation tools (smart pigs).

(2) Hydrogeologic parameters, such as soil permeability, direction and velocity of groundwater flow, aquifer location or depth, and hydrogeologic barriers or conduits.

(3) Water well parameters, such as depth of well and well construction.

(4) The nature of the fuel and its ability to migrate to public drinking water wells.

(5) The impact of human activity that may elevate or reduce the risk to the drinking water well.

#### **Section 51017.2. Wellhead protection**

(a) With advice from the Pipeline Safety Advisory Committee, the State Water Resources Control Board, the California regional water quality control boards, and local water purveyors, the State Fire Marshal shall adopt regulations for wellhead protection plans that provide guidelines to be used by the pipeline operator as specified in Section 51017.1 to protect the public drinking water well from contamination should a pipeline rupture or leak pose a significant threat to a public drinking water well, taking into account the nature of the fuel and its ability to migrate to a public drinking water well. The regulations adopted by the State Fire Marshal shall require each plan to contain adequate and effective measures that are technologically feasible, practical, and operationally sound that protect public drinking water wells. At a minimum, the wellhead protection plan shall contain the following:

(1) Operational activities that provide the pipeline operator with sufficient information to adequately ensure the integrity of the pipeline. These may include internal inspection or evaluation tools (smart pigs), substructure excavation (potholing), well monitoring, additional or more frequent pressure tests, cathodic protection surveys or visual inspections, or other technologies as appropriate.

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(2) Response measures that will enhance the pipeline operator's response to an emergency, such as a pipeline rupture, fire, earthquake, or flood. These measures may include activities, such as additional training for operator staff or improved coordination with emergency response agencies.

(b) At least once every five years, the State Fire Marshal, with the advice of the Pipeline Safety Advisory Committee, the State Water Resources Control Board, the California regional water quality control boards, and local water purveyors, shall review the regulations adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) to determine if new measures that have been proven to be technologically feasible, practical, and operationally sound should be included in the regulations. The State Fire Marshal shall adopt new regulations if such new measures are identified.

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